

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY AUGUST 28, 2003

AMENDED IN SENATE JULY 21, 2003

Senate Concurrent Resolution

No. 40

Introduced by Senator Chesbro
(Principal coauthor: Senator Alpert)
(Coauthors: Senators Kuehl and Soto)
(Coauthors: Assembly Members Benoit, Berg, Daucher, Diaz,
Hancock, Levine, Mullin, and Pavley)

June 30, 2003

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 40—Relative to youth involvement.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 40, as amended, Chesbro. Youth involvement.

This measure would encourage the Legislature to support programs that address problem behaviors in high-risk youth. The measure would, in addition, encourage the Legislature to establish March ~~31~~, 28 as an annual day of recognition for those entities that have successfully developed youth participation and involvement programs, and for the youth who participate in those programs.

Fiscal committee: yes.

- 1 WHEREAS, Over the next two to five years, many counties in
2 California will experience a 25 to 40 percent increase in their youth
3 and young adult populations; and
4 WHEREAS, Professionally evaluated studies of youth
5 development programs have documented direct behavioral
6 changes relating to reductions in problem behaviors in high-risk

1 youth, overall improvements in positive self-esteem and
2 self-confidence, greater senses of competence and control among
3 vulnerable youth, improvements in personal and social skills
4 development, greater success in academic achievement, and
5 documented clarification of academic and career goals; and

6 WHEREAS, Over 50 California city, county, and school
7 governing and advisory boards and commissions include youth in
8 local policy and budget decisions, thus engaging those youth in
9 local and regional decisionmaking and programs; and

10 WHEREAS, State budgetary and policy decisions have a
11 significant impact on the type and quality of state programs that
12 serve youth; and

13 WHEREAS, Many legislators and state departments support
14 programs and services that focus on building and reinforcing
15 personal and community asset development as successful
16 prevention and early intervention strategies; and

17 WHEREAS, An essential element of creating effective and
18 efficient asset-based prevention and early intervention strategies
19 is to include youth in the process of creating, implementing, and
20 managing the programs that serve them; and

21 WHEREAS, Many cities, counties, and school districts are
22 effectively using youth development strategies and should be
23 supported to achieve the full benefits of these efforts; and

24 WHEREAS, The evidence is overwhelming that programs
25 utilizing youth development strategies and asset-based prevention
26 and early intervention strategies result in improved personal and
27 community change; now, therefore, be it

28 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly*
29 *thereof concurring*, That the state should support programs and
30 prevention and early intervention services that address problem
31 behaviors in youth before those youth become more difficult and
32 costly; and be it further

33 *Resolved*, That the Legislature should solicit advice from youth
34 about budgetary and policy proposals that impact those youth; and
35 be it further

36 *Resolved*, That the Legislature should determine youth
37 involvement opportunities and link those opportunities to existing
38 local government, school, and state programs that promote
39 voluntary civic and community service; and be it further



1 *Resolved*, That the Legislature encourage individual Members
2 of the Legislature to include local youth in their policy-making
3 efforts; and be it further

4 *Resolved*, That the Legislature encourage schools and
5 community programs to take affirmative steps to ensure that real
6 opportunities exist for including youth in their planning and
7 implementation efforts; and be it further

8 *Resolved*, That the Legislature establish March ~~31~~ 28 as an
9 annual day of recognition to honor and affirm the programs,
10 services, policymakers, and local governmental or educational
11 entities that have successfully developed youth participation and
12 involvement programs, and the youth who contribute to those
13 efforts; and be it further

14 *Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of
15 this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.

